

Testimony by Sheriff Jennifer L. Harlow, 2nd Vice President of the Vermont Sheriff's Association

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H. 482

The Vermont Sheriff's Association broadly supports the system that is looking to be put into place. In regards to ARIDE we have law enforcement officers who have received a higher level of training than what ARIDE provides and currently this bill will be dictating that they now go and take ARIDE training. In regards to a level I or level II if they are purely working court security they will not be patrolling or stopping vehicles and therefore would not need the additional ARIDE training, and we would challenge that they would even need to be DUI certified.

ARIDE and the way Sheriff's function we have individuals who are conducting court security, transports for MH and DCF, traffic details, etc. There are certain areas in the Sheriff's Departments where this level of training is not needed and therefore should not be required. In this current state where staffing is so critical we should be thoughtful in evaluating what is needed so we can be responsible in our training requirements and budgets.

FIP is a philosophy and therefore we do not believe this is measurable. FIP should be incorporated in several aspects of training over a broad spectrum and should have continued conversations throughout different training scenarios on a continuing basis.

*Contacting any and all previous LE agencies an individual has worked for. How should an agency document their efforts to contact other agencies? What if the other agency does not comply and give a summary of that employee?